

Communicable Disease Plan

This communicable disease plan has been developed because _____ recognizes the responsibility to ensure the health and safety of our own workers and others who are present at our worksite(s). This responsibility is stated in the Workers Compensation Act (WCA) Section 21. The WCA also enables the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR) which outlines further legal requirements.

Communicable diseases are illnesses caused by an infectious agent or its toxins that occur through direct or indirect transmission from an infected individual. We are most concerned about those that circulate in the community from time to time because of our interaction with each other, and the public. Some examples of communicable diseases are COVID-19, norovirus, and influenza.

_____ is taking the following general measures to reduce risks to workers related to communicable diseases:

- We will continue to inform workers and others who attend our site and consult with the Worker Safety Representative or Joint Health and Safety Committee about known communicable diseases and our efforts to prevent their presence and transmission.
- We provide support to workers who have symptoms consistent with a communicable disease, through programs such as: work from home opportunities and access to sick leave (paid or unpaid).
- We ensure, to the best of our ability, that workers with symptoms consistent with a communicable disease are not present at the worksite.
- We provide hand-hygiene facilities that are kept clean, are readily available, and are maintained. Furthermore, we promote appropriate personal hygiene practices.
- We maintain a clean environment through regular general and spot cleaning that is appropriate for our activities and undertaken specifically to prevent communicable disease spread.
- We ensure our ventilation system is in good working condition by following the preventative maintenance schedule recommended by the manufacturer, as applicable.
- While being sensitive to privacy concerns, individual choice, and/or ability to receive a vaccination for various vaccine-preventable illnesses, _____ will support those who wish to receive them and those who do not.
- We commit to monitoring information from the [Public Health Officer, BC Centre for Disease Control](#) and/or our health region for new or emergent communicable diseases of concern. Specifically, we will rely on their guidance, notices or orders and what steps are to be taken and, as much as possible, be ready to implement or maintain measures as advised or directed by public health or [WorkSafeBC](#).

Employer Representative Signed: _____ Date: _____

Worker Safety Representative Signed: _____ Date: _____

Additional information for background or that may be of interest – not to be included in plan:

- This plan should be shared with and communicated widely with your workers and other workers who attend the site but may not need to be posted for public/patron information.
- Further legislated details regarding ventilation can be found here: [OHSR 4.70 – 4.80](#)
- [Actsafes Safety Association](#) provides resources, education, and advice to the performing arts and live events industry in BC – legislated needs elsewhere have not been considered in the development of this plan.
- [WorkSafeBC](#) is the regulator who may visit the worksite and inspect any part of it at any time, their information is also reviewed regularly. Some resources used in the development of this document include: [Communicable disease prevention: A guide for employers](#), and [OHS Guideline G-P2-21 Communicable disease prevention](#).

[Public Health Officer statement](#) on transition from COVID-19 Safety Plans to Communicable Disease Plans.

Health Region Website Links:

[First Nations Health Authority](#)
[Interior Health](#)
[Northern Health](#)

[Fraser Health](#)
[Island Health](#)
[Vancouver Coastal Health](#)